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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims that begin on page 2 of this response.

Remarks/Arguments begin on pages 17 of this response.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) A safety ski binding for releasably securing a boot having a toe portion and a heel portion to use ~~with~~ a ski or a ski board comprising:
 - a) a static base plate capable of being fixedly attached to said ski or ski board;
 - b) a top plate pivotally attached to the static base plate in a manner that permits pivotal movement of generally said entire top plate around a vertical axis;
 - c) lateral biasing means for biasing the top plate towards a predetermined position; and
 - d) a toe holding means having first vertical pivot means pivotally connected to the top said base plate and second vertical pivot means connected to the said plate, such that said toe holding means can pivot around said first vertical pivot means so that when a lateral force is applied to the toe portion of the boot

~~holding means is transferred to the top plate, causing lateral displacement of said top plate from the predetermined position and the release of the boot. having toe safety release means which will release when the toe holding means pivot when the top plate is displaced laterally moved away from the predetermined position.~~

4. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 3, where the static base plate is attached to the ski, in the central portion of the static base plate.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 3, wherein the laterally pivoting biasing means comprises a first laterally displacing cam.

8. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 4,
wherein the laterally pivoting biasing means comprises a
first laterally displacing cam.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) A ski binding for use with a ski or a
ski board comprising:

- a) a static base plate capable of being fixedly attached
to said ski or ski board;

- b) a top plate pivotally attached to the static base plate;
 - c) laterally pivoting biasing means for biasing the top plate towards a predetermined position;
 - d) a toe holding means translatably connected to the top plate so that lateral force applied to the toe holding means is transferred to the top plate, having toe safety release means which will release when the toe holding means is translated.
16. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 15, where the static base plate is attached to the ski, in the central portion of the static base plate.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 15, wherein the laterally pivoting biasing means comprises a first laterally displacing cam.

20. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 16, wherein the laterally pivoting biasing means comprises a first laterally displacing cam.
21. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 3, further comprising a heel holding means pivotally connected on the top plate such that said heel holding means can pivot around a vertical axis and so that a lateral force applied to the heel holding means is transferred to the top plate which will cause the heel holding means to pivot.
22. (Currently amended) A ski binding as described in claim 21 wherein the static base plate is attached to the ski in the central portion of the static base plate.
23. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 7, wherein said laterally pivoting biasing means further comprises a second laterally displacing cam.

24. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 8, wherein said laterally pivoting biasing means further comprises a second laterally displacing cam.
25. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 23 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a first bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate and said second laterally displacing cam comprises a second bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate, said first bias being different than said second bias.
26. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 24 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a first bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate and said second laterally displacing cam comprises a second bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate, said first bias being different than said second bias.
27. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 7 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a cam follower, a first cam surface on which said cam follower may

laterally travel if a lateral force having a first direction is applied thereon and a second cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a second direction is applied thereon.

28. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 8 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a cam follower, a first cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a first direction is applied thereon and a second cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a second direction is applied thereon.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 19, wherein said laterally pivoting biasing means further comprises a second laterally displacing cam.

32. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 20, wherein said laterally pivoting biasing means further comprises a second laterally displacing cam.
33. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 31 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a first bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate and said second laterally displacing cam comprises a second bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate, said first bias being different than said second bias.
34. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 32 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a first bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate and said second laterally displacing cam comprises a second bias which pivotally cooperates with said top plate, said first bias being different than said second bias.
35. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 19 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a cam follower, a first cam surface on which said cam follower may

laterally travel if a lateral force having a first direction is applied thereon and a second cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a second direction is applied thereon.

36. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 20 wherein said first laterally displacing cam comprises a cam follower a first cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a first direction is applied thereon and a second cam surface on which said cam follower may laterally travel if a lateral force having a second direction is applied thereon.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently amended) A ski binding for a ski comprising:

- a) a rigid static base plate;
- b) a top plate pivotally attached to the static base plate;

- c) toe holding means pivotally mounted to said top plate
so that said toe holding means can pivot around a
vertical axis;
 - d) a heel holding means mounted on said top plate;
 - e) means to mount said static base plate on said ski at or
near the longitudinal center of said static base plate;
 - f) first pivot means located between said center and said
toe holding means adapted to allow said top plate to
pivot around said first pivot means.
40. (Previously amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim 39,
further comprising second pivot means located between said
center and said heel holding means adapted to allow said top
plate to pivot around said second pivot means.
41. (Cancelled)
42. (Currently amended) A ski binding as claimed in claim ~~41~~40
wherein said heel holding means are pivotally mounted to
said top plate so that said heel holding means can pivot
around a vertical axis.

43. (Currently amended) A binding for mounting a ski boot to a ski, said binding comprising:

- a) a plate over which said ski boot may be placed;
- b) first pivot means to pivotally attach said plate to said ski;
- c) toe holding means having a toe holding surface;
- d) second pivot means to pivotally attach said toe holding means ~~to on~~ said plate wherein said second pivot means are located at or rearwardly from said toe holding surface and wherein said second pivot means allow said toe holding means to pivot around a vertical axis.

44. (Currently amended) A binding as claimed in claim 43, further comprising heel holding means and third pivot means to pivotally attach said heel holding means on said plate wherein said third pivot means allow said heel holding means to pivot around a vertical axis.

45. (New) A ski binding comprising:

- a) a static base plate capable of being fixedly attached to a ski or ski board;
- b) a top plate moveably attached to the static base plate in a manner that permits pivotal movement of generally said entire top plate around a vertical axis;
- c) biasing means, for biasing the top plate towards a predetermined position;
- b) a toe holding means having first vertical pivot means connected to the said base plate and second vertical pivot means connected to the said top plate such that said toe holding means can pivot around said first vertical pivot; and
- c) heel holding means having third vertical pivot means connected to the said base plate and fourth vertical pivot means connected to the said top plate such that said heel holding means can pivot around said third vertical pivot means when a lateral force is applied to the heel portion of the boot causing lateral displacement of said top plate from the predetermined position and the release of the boot.

46. (New) A safety ski binding as claimed in claim 3 further comprising:

heel holding means, pivotally connected to the top plate such that said heel holding means can pivot around a vertical axis, and wherein a lateral force applied to the heel portion of the boot is transferred to the top plate causing lateral displacement from the predetermined position.

47. (New) A safety ski binding as claimed in claim 3 further comprising heel holding means having third vertical pivot means connected to the said base plate and fourth vertical pivot means connected to the said top plate such that said heel holding means can pivot around said third vertical pivot means when a lateral force is applied to the heel portion of the boot causing lateral displacement of said top plate from the predetermined position and the release of the boot.

48. (New) A ski binding comprising:

- a) a static base plate capable of being fixedly attached to a ski or ski board;
- b) a top plate moveably attached to the static base plate in a manner that permits pivotal movement of generally said entire top plate around a vertical axis;
- c) first and second pivoting means, coupled to said top plate, said first pivoting means disposed forward of a central point along a longitudinal axis of said top plate proximate a toe holding region on said top plate, said second pivoting means disposed rearward of said central point along a longitudinal axis of said top plate proximate a heel holding region on said top plate, said first and second pivoting means for allowing said toe holding region of said top plate to move generally laterally in a first direction and said second pivoting means for allowing said heel holding region of said top plate to move generally laterally in a second direction opposite said first direction;

- d) biasing means, coupled to said first and second pivoting means, for biasing the top plate towards a predetermined position;
- e) a toe holding means having first vertical pivot means connected to the said base plate and second vertical pivot means connected to the said top plate such that said toe holding means can pivot around said first vertical pivot means when a lateral force is applied to the toe portion of the boot causing lateral displacement of said top plate from the predetermined position and the release of the boot; and
- f) heel holding means, pivotally connected to the top plate proximate said heel holding region such that said heel holding means can pivot around a vertical axis, and wherein a lateral force applied to the heel holding means is transferred to the top plate causing lateral displacement of said top plate from the predetermined position.